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WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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JFC Increases Funding for Women's Cancer Screenings

MADISON - One of Wisconsin's landmark cancer screening programs is getting a boost. On Tuesday, the budget-writing Joint Committee on Finance added \$100,000 to the Wisconsin Well Woman Program. As a cancer survivor, Senator Alberta Darling says investing in the program is a top priority.

"The Wisconsin Well Woman Program is one of the unsung heroes in women's health," Darling said, "It is a crucial tool in protecting women's health in our state."

Inspired by former First Lady Sue Ann Thompson, the <u>Wisconsin Well Woman</u> <u>Program</u> provides breast and cervical cancer screenings and diagnostic services to women aged 45 to 64 with little or no health care coverage. The program is available in all 72 counties and 11 tribes and reached 5,799 women in 2014. Representative John Nygren says this program has a proven track record and is helping to increase access for cancer screenings.

"The Wisconsin Well Woman Program is successful because it reaches out to women and operates in every county," Nygren said, "This additional funding will mean more women will have access to screenings and the care they need."

The budget motion was added to the 2015-2017 budget by a vote of 16-0. The entire budget will also be voted on by the both the full State Senate and full State Assembly before going to Governor Walker's desk for final approval.

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